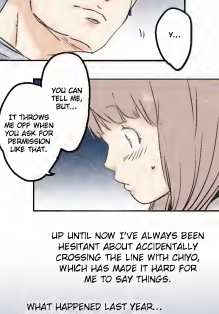
JUST LIKE THAT, A MONTH HAS PASSED SINCE CHIYO AND I BEGAN DATING.

ASIDE FROM JUST TALKING, I HAVEN'T ACTUALLY DONE ANYTHING WITH HER YET. ALL OF OUR DATES HAVE BEEN FAILURES SO FAR, UNSURPRISINGLY.

BUT I SHALL PERSEVERE AND CONTINUE MOVING FORWARD...! HOPEFULLY... TURNING FROM FRIENDS INTO LOVERS.



UP UNTIL NOW I'VE ALWAYS BEEN HESITANT ABOUT ACCIDENTALLY CROSSING THE LINE WITH CHIYO, WHICH HAS MADE IT HARD FOR ME TO SAY THINGS.

WHAT HAPPENED LAST YEAR... IN THE TIME WE WERE APART... AND PERHAPS WHAT MADE ME END UP WANTING TO SEE CHIYO AGAIN.

I'M GOING TO TELL HER.

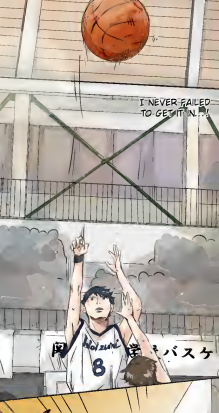
WHEN WE WERE TOGETHER BEFORE WE TALKED ABOUT IT A LITTLE AT THAT DONUT PLACE.
A LONG TIME AGO.
I...

PLAYED BASKET-BALL.

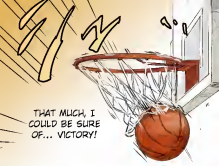
Koi-Inu
DEFENSE!! DEFENSE!!
NUMBER 8 IS ABOUT TO SHOOT! KEEP YOUR EYE ON HIM!

HEY ...!

IF I CAN SHAKE OFF THEIR DEFENSE... I'LL BE ABLE TO SCORE RIGHT NOW.

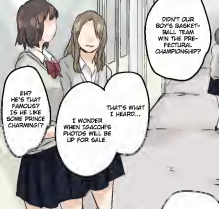

NO MATTER WHERE I SHOT FROM...

I NEVER FAILED TO GET IT IN!!


THAT MUCH, I COULD BE SURE OF... VICTORY!

NICE, IGARASHI!
THIS IS ME AT THE TIME!

DIDN'T OUR BOY'S BASKET-BALL TEAM WIN THE PRE-FECTURAL CHAMPIONSHIP?
BAH! HE'S THAT TSUNOUCHI TO HE LIKE SOME PRINCE CHARMING?!
THAT'S WHAT I HEARD...
I WONDER WHEN SOGACHI'S PHOTOS WILL BE UP FOR SALE


NOT SO MUCH PRINCE CHARMING, NOW HE MORE LIKE THE PRINCE OF MOLES? THE MOLE PRINCE
THAT'S SO LAME! COME UP WITH A BETTER NAME.

OY, SHUN!
khuf khuf
munch.

?
COME HERE A MINUTE...

WHAT?
RIGHT! I'M NOT DONE EATING YET, THOUGH.
INOUE FROM THE GIRL'S BASKETBALL TEAM WANTS TO TALK TO YOU.
YOU SHOULD PROBABLY GO, AL-RIGHT?

I DEFINITELY WOULDN'T HAVE SAID IT BACK THEN, BUT... FOR ME, FOOD TOOK PRECEDENCE OVER SOMEONE'S FEELINGS...

WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?
IT DOESN'T MATTER. JUST GO TALK TO HER.

WHAT?
INOUE
...

UWA
A

S... SORRY FOR CALLING YOU OUT HERE SO SUDDENLY!
THERE'S A GRAIN OF RICE STUCK TO YOUR FACE...

CRAP
AH, IT CAME OFF...

PRETTY AMAZING! CONGRATS ON THE PREFECTURAL CHAMPIONSHIP! WE DIDN'T EVEN MAKE IT INTO THE TOP 8...
YOUR FINALS... I WAS WATCHING.
Y... YOU WERE REALLY COOL! I CAN'T EVEN BEGIN TO UNDERSTAND HOW COOL YOU ARE...

? .... UHH
THANKS

WAS THAT ALL?

IF IT WAS, THEN I'M HEADING BACK...

THE INTER-HIGH!

I'LL BE CHEERING YOU ON...

THERE'S NO TIME FOR BREAKS!
DON'T SLOW DOWN!
YOUSUKE ...!
?
NICE SHOT!
...
THAT YOUSUKE ...
HE HAS A CRUSH ON INOUE FROM THE GIRL'S BASKETBALL TEAM.
REALLY?
YOU DIDN'T KNOW HE WAS JEALOUS OF YOU? HE'S ACTING LIKE A KID ABOUT IT.

WHY... ME?
WOOOW. YOU ARE SLOW ON THE UPTAKE. WHAT DID THE UPTAKE TELL TAKE... YOU GUNNA LUNCH?
"GOOD LUCK AT THE INTERVIEW" ...
THAT WAS IT
YOUSUKE...
LET'S DO OUR BEST THIS SUMMER.
IT'S OUR LAST YEAR AND ALL...
I'LL MAKE SURE TO SCORE WITH ANY BALLS YOU PASS TO ME.
SHUN IGARASHI!!
I'LL NEVER LOSE TO YOU!
LOSE TO ME? BUT WE'RE ON THE SAME TEAM.
YOU'RE TRYING TO INTIMIDATE THE WRONG PERSON.
SHUT UP!
DON'T ACT STUPID!!
WHEN I SAY I WON'T LOSE TO YOU, I MEAN IT!

Y'KNOW
I... HAVE THIS PERSON THAT I WISH I COULD SEE ONE MORE TIME.
HUH
OOH, A

YEP ...
MY CHILDHOOD FRIEND! AND THE GIRL I LOVE.

BUT I DOUBT WE'LL EVER MEET AGAIN.
WHO KNOWS, MAYBE SHE'S EVEN FORGOTTEN ABOUT ME...
WELL, THE SAME GOES FOR ME.
MY OWN MEMORIES ARE A BIT FADED.

HOW ABOUT YOU?
HUH?

INOUE!
I HEARD FROM KAZUMA.

INOUE ...
PROBABLY LIKES YOU.
IS THAT SO?
THE TOP 8...
I THINK I'M GOING TO TELL HER MY FEELINGS... IF WE MAKE IT.
YOU THINK YOU CAN WIN AGAINST ME WITH A PASSIVE ATTITUDE LIKE THAT?
IF YOU'RE SERIOUS ABOUT IT, GIVE IT YOUR ALL.
AREN'T WE THE BEST TEAM IN KANAGAWA?
WHY NOT SAVE YOUR CONFESSION FOR WHEN WE WIN THE NATIONALS?
to be continued...

THE CAROLUS MENGUS TRANSLATION GROUP
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ts/ci/pr

Koi Inu is best when read in its original long strip form at:
http://www.bato.to/comic/_/comics/koi-inu-r15434
where this scanlation is originally posted.